

## **Comments sought on proposal for wider choice of learning for young people in Haverhill**

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Four colleges and a school have joined forces to develop a proposal to provide a wider choice of further education for young people in Haverhill.

The proposal by a collaboration of schools and colleges called the Two Counties Learning Trust includes providing a new centre for post-16 learning in Haverhill, a central service for young people to get advice and guidance on learning, and specialist facilities for studying new diplomas. The Learning and Skills Council (Suffolk) is now asking the public to comment on the proposal.

The LSC invited proposals for options to develop educational provision for 16 to 19 year olds in response to the findings of the recent School Organisations Review and LSC Supply and Demand Study which both highlighted the need for a wider choice of education and training in the town as well as a higher standard of provision.

Judith Mobbs, Area Director for the LSC Suffolk, said "Haverhill is growing fast as a business centre and we need to make sure that the quality and range of education options

for young people meets everyone's needs. The LSC launched this competition as part of its strategy to develop a new offer for young people in Haverhill – now we need local people to have their say about the idea that has been put forward by the Two Counties Learning Trust. “

LSC Suffolk are keen that local people are able to access the document and feed back their thoughts between now and the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2009. The next stage will be for a panel of local stakeholders to review the proposal and any feedback from the public during the consultation period. Their decision will then be ratified by the LSC regional board, with an outcome expected to be publicised late July 2009.

The proposal and further details of the Haverhill competition can be downloaded from <http://www.lsc.gov.uk/regions/EastofEngland/whatwedo/Haverhill+16-19+Competition.htm>. For further details on the proposal please contact Peter Mumford at the LSC Suffolk at [peter.mumford@lsc.gov.uk](mailto:peter.mumford@lsc.gov.uk)

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### **Notes to editors**

#### **Learning and Skills Council:**

The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for ensuring the availability of high-quality education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world class standards. Our vision is that young people and adults in England have knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. We work nationally, regionally and locally to deliver this ambition on behalf of learners and employers.

#### **Two Counties Learning Trust:**

The Two Counties Learning Trust is a collaboration of five educational organisations working together to manage and deliver 16-19 education provision for learners in Haverhill. It comprises: Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College, The Granta Special School, Linton Village College, Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College and West Suffolk College.